



DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

NO FOREIGN DISSEMNSA, DIA reviews
completedState Dept. review
completed**DIA SITUATION REPORT
#28**DATE: 12 October 1973
TIME: 0600 EDT**SUBJECT: MIDDLE EAST HOSTILITIES****REFERENCE: DIA Analysis****GENERAL**

(C) Israeli forces have ruptured the Syrian first line of defense in the northern sector and are consolidating their position 10 to 12 kilometers inside Syria. The penetration of Syrian positions opens various options to the IDF. The Suez front remains stable and essentially unchanged in the past 24 hours.

EGYPTIAN/SUEZ CANAL FRONT

(S/NFD) The Suez Canal front remains stable with Israeli ground units containing the Egyptians. The Egyptian forces on the East Bank number some 30,000 to 40,000 troops in five infantry divisions and an estimated 10,000 to 20,000 personnel in elements of two armored divisions -- plus an unknown number of combat- and service-support units. The total Egyptian force in the Sinai is believed to be 70,000 men and between 700 and 800 tanks.

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UN MSN NEW YORK 24 Sep 73

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(S/NFD) IAF operations over the Suez front have been at a low level. As-Salihiyah Airfield was struck, however.

(S/NFD) The Israelis report that Egypt continues to prepare an assault on Sharm el Sheikh by sea- and helicopter-borne troops.

(S/NFD) The Israelis report that the Egyptians may be preparing for chemical warfare. Chemical warfare was employed by the Egyptians during the 1963-1967 Yemeni conflict, during which tear, blister, and possibly nerve agents were used.

(S/NFD/NDA/CD) The Egyptians have reportedly lost 25 of 70 SA-2/GUIDELINE sites and 17 of 60 SA-3/GOA sites during the current conflict. Their SAM umbrella is reported to extend some 39 kilometers east of the Suez Canal.

SYRIAN/GOLAN HEIGHTS FRONT

(S/NFD) An Israeli armored force -- estimated at brigade size -- has succeeded in penetrating the northern sector of the Syrian defense line to a depth of 10 to 12 kilometers. This penetration is exposing the right flank of the Syrian units holding the original cease-fire defensive positions farther to the south. The terrain in the northern sector is not conducive to offensive operations. The Syrians lack the necessary forces for a strong counterattack in the northern sector. If the Syrians are unable to contain the Israeli penetration, they will probably be forced to withdraw to their second line of defense -- extending from the Beit Jinn area (33-19N, 35-56E) eastward to Mesmiye (33-08N, 36-23E). This line could be reinforced by troops from other Arab countries. Reliable reports indicate that preparations are also under way to establish a final defensive line south and west of Damascus. The line will extend from Yafour (33-32N, 36-04E) to Blei (33-19N, 36-28E).

(S/NFD) Some options open to the Israelis include a drive on Damascus, a pivot to the south to rollup or encircle Syrian units on the first defense line, or a limited drive to the Saassa area (33-18N, 36-01E) in order to bring the Damascus area under artillery fire by 175-mm self-propelled guns.

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OTHER ARAB ACTIVITY

TUNISIA

(S/NFD/NDA/CD) Tunisia is reportedly weighing the possibility of dispatching an AMX-13 light tank regiment to one of the battle fronts. Libyan President Qadhaafi has allegedly agreed to underwrite Tunisian participation with a promise to replace any equipment lost in battle. A decision to enter the war reportedly would be greeted with enthusiasm by young Tunisian Army Officers.

(S/NFD/CD)

all Iraqi units at the front will be under the command of the Iraqi 3d Armored Division and that Iraqi aircraft are being serviced and repaired at Walid Air Base, Iraq. There is evidence of considerable internal movement of Iraqi forces as a result of the dispatch of various units to the Syrian front.

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SAUDI ARABIA

(S/NFD) A US military advisor in Saudi Arabia has confirmed that on 11 October 10 Saudi LIGHTNING aircraft were deployed to Tabuk via Taif. Their missile armament was sent separately on C-130 HERCULES aircraft. Tabuk is a major military center in northwestern Saudi Arabia and a convenient staging point for possible deliveries to Jordan and Syria.

FEDAYEEN

(C/NFD) Embassy Beirut reports that the fedayeen may have destroyed an Israeli PHANTOM with an SA-7/GRAIL missile. Time of the firing is not available.

LIBYA-LEBANON

(U) Tripoli radio reported at 0100Z on 11 October that a Lebanese freighter was sunk by a mine when it entered a minefield in Libyan waters.

OTHER ACTIVITYPAKISTANSOVIET GROUND

(TSU) No significant changes from what was reported earlier.

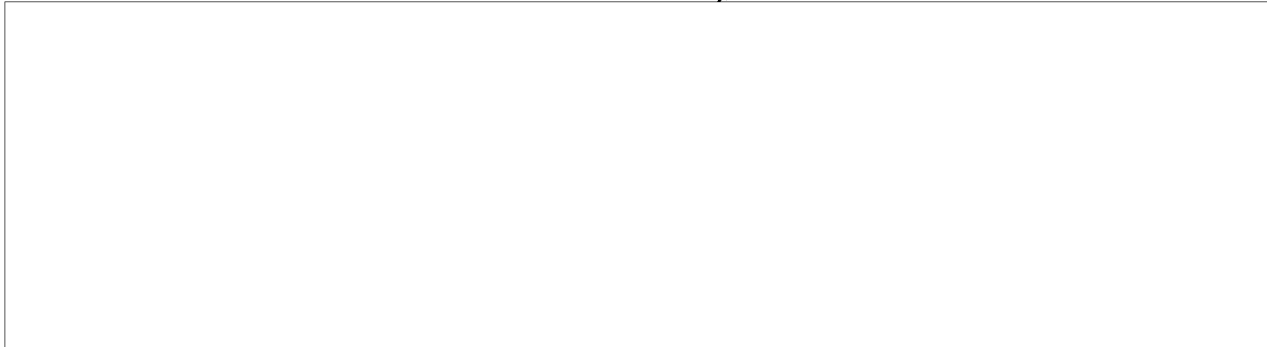
SOVIET NAVY

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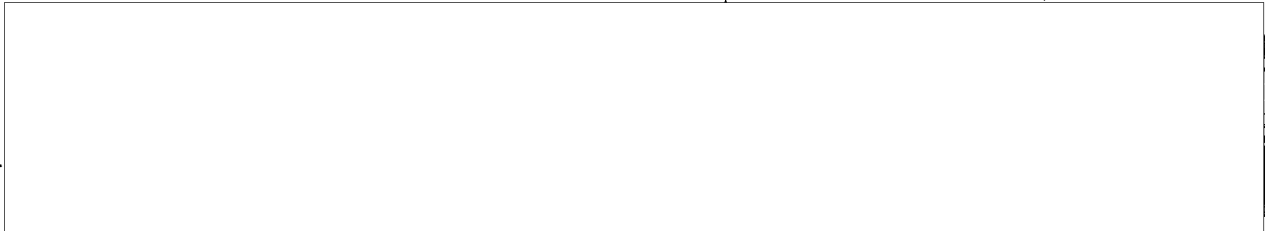
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LATE ITEM

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ESTIMATED LOSSES AS OF 0600 EDT 12 Oct 73

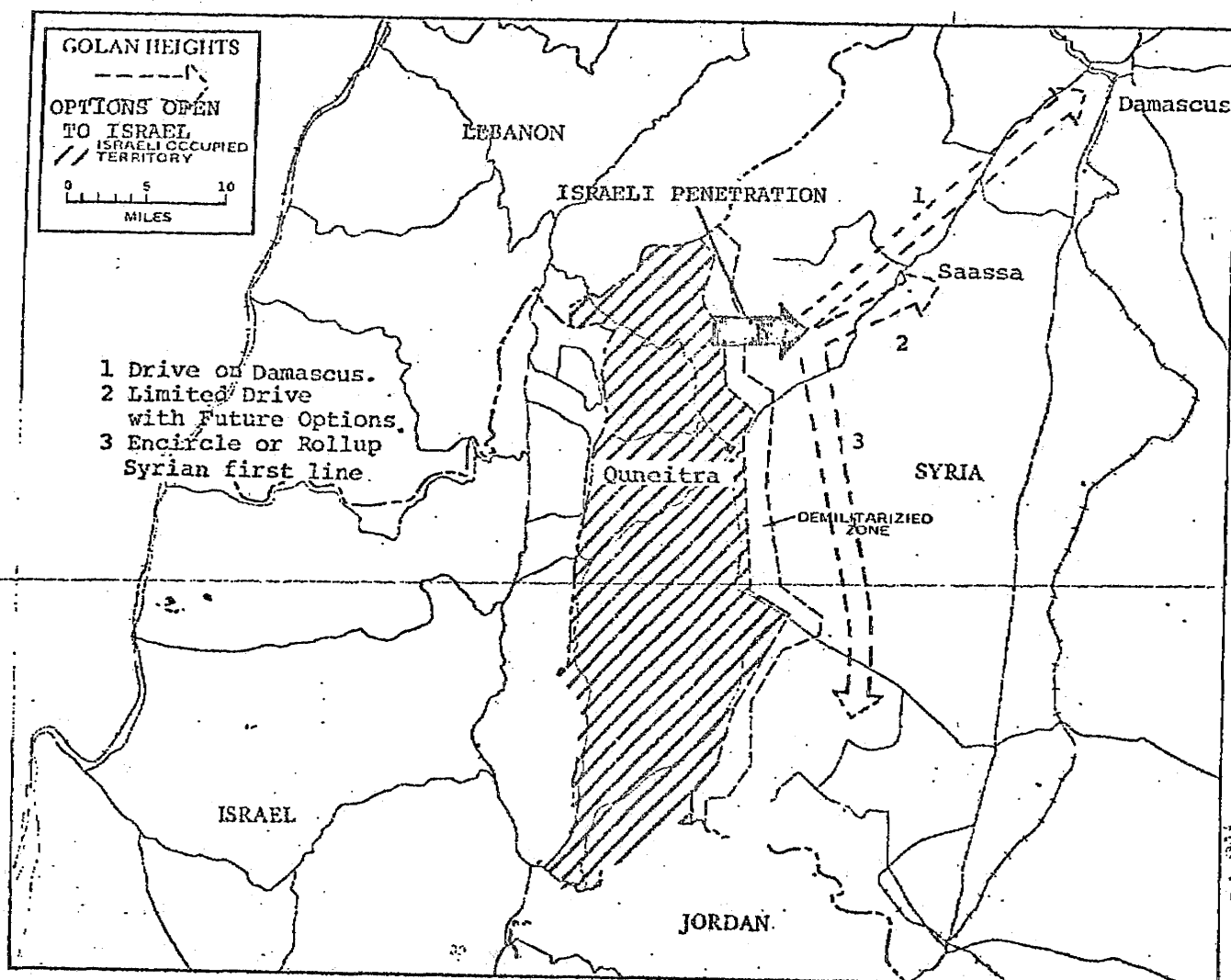
	KIA	WIA	AIRCRAFT	TANKS	ARTIL- LERY	SHIPS
EGYPT	OVERALL	6,000- 8,500	83 Total: including 47 Interceptors/ Fighter Bombers (Type Unk) 19 Helicopters (Probably MI-8s) 17 Type Unk	225-275 Total: Incl 11 PT-76 Remainder Type Unk	Unk	1 Sub (damaged) 1 MTB (damaged) 3 OSA PTFG 1 KOMAR PTG 1 BERTRAM PT 2 DECASTRO PB 6 Unident craft 3 KOMAR (damaged)
SYRIA	OVERALL	6,000- 6,500	91 Total: including 37 Interceptors/ Fighter Bombers 4 Helicopters (Type Unk)	650-700	Unk	5 KOMAR PTG 1 P-6 Patrol boat 1 VANYA-class minesweeper
ISRAEL	OVERALL	2,500- 3,000	90 Total: including 16 F-4 30 A-4 5 MIRAGE 4 SUPER MYSTERE	600-650	Unk	4 Poss SAAR PTFG
GUERRILLAS	9	15	34 Fighters (Type Unk) 1 Helicopter			
IRAQ			16 Fighters			
LEBANON		9				
MOROCCO	At least 6	Unk				

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